James White letter - Marriage plans - p. 2

Falmouth, Aug. 26th, 1846

My dear Brother Collins:

Our very dear Sister Many Ann Lawrence fell asleep in Jesus Tuesday P. M. at 6 o'clock. She had her senses till the last. When I saw her eleven days before she died, I asked her if she was willing to die. She said, "Yes, if it is the Lord's will I am willing. I am prepared, certainly, I am prepared to go. Three and four days before her death her mother asked her if her faith held out. "Yes," was the reply. "Does your faith in Jesus' coming still hold out strong?" She gazed at her mother with a look of surprise and answered, "Certainly. I must be very different from what I am now if I give that up." A few moments before she fell asleep she called her mother to her and said, "My dear mother, my dear mother, I am going, going home. Glory to God, going home to glory. Oh glorious hope! Oh blest abode! I shall be near and like my God. I am going up home, up home, up home to glory. How good, how good is dying," and fell asleep.

Such a testimony is worth more than a world to her dear lonely mother. I feel much for Sister Lawrence, here all alone, a lamb among wolves. The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 P. M. I am in truly a strait place, but I will trust in God. I shall have a congregation of hard, ugly Congregationalist and Methodist. My text is Tim. 2: 11, 12, 13 verses.

I. The second appearing of Christ is a subject that the Apostles dwelt largely upon. II. A second presupposes a first and must be in many respects like a first. III. Christ first coming was literal, so will be His second coming. IV. Death, conversion, or the advent of the Spirit is not Christ's appearing. Christ is coming to raise the dead saints and change those who are alive living. V. Christ is coming to restore this earth to its primitive purity. VI. He is coming to set up his everlasting kingdom and reign. Christ is to be King. The land promised to Abram and enlarged in Dan. 7 and Isaiah 65, and is

to be the territory of the spiritual seed of Abram, the subjects, etc. This is our hope. Paul calls it a blessed hope and all true believers can say Amen.

Do not think Brother James is getting formal or is going to try to convert people to the Advent faith. No; its too late. But its our duty on some occasions to give a reason of our hope I think, even to swine.

I have a chance to get to Fairhaven tonight in a sail boat, and shall take the cars tomorrow morning for Boston, and the express train of cars for Portland at 4:30. Shall be in Portland tomorrow night at 6 o'clock. I have received a letter from Ellen, stating that Brother Nickols was at Portland next day after I left. She said he had a glorious time. She had a vision when he was there. Brother Nickols said he was tried when he first heard of our marriage or intended marriage, but he was now satisfied that God was in it. Sister Ellen says that the way is made plain. We are published; we shall be married perhaps Monday. Since I saw you I have visited Holms Hall, Bro. Chase, and the sisters are good. We had a Holy Ghost time together. They have no objections now to our marriage. But it tried them at first. I have visited Bro. Hall. I related the story to Charlotte and Sister Hall. It made them surprised at first, but they told me they thought it must be of God. Well, I will say no more on this point.

Since I left Portland I have been very free and happy. God is good to me,a poor worm, and I hope to go to glory. If I get there I must press to the mark. The devil is the devil, yet God save me from his wiles. When I think of my strange course for nearly two years sometimes the thought rushes over me that it is all wrong: I mean my course. I have no doubt as to the Advent history, shut door and all, not one. But I have sought with intense interest for heavenly wisdom and I will believe that God has lead me. Amen.

From what Ellen said in her letter, I judge that she thinks of coming West as soon as we are married. If we do we shall be at Dartmouth.

Love to your wife and Sister Ashley.

James White.

Falmouth Aug 26. 1846.

My Dear Brother Collins

Our very dear Sister Mary Ann Lawrence fell asleep in Jesus Tuesday P M at 6 O Clock. She had her senses till the last. When I see her Eleven days before She dies I asked her if She was willing to die She said yes if it is the Lords will I am willing I am prepared Certainly I am prepared to go.

Three or four days before her death her Mother asked her if her faith held out yes was the reply. Does your faith in Jesus coming still hold out Strong She gazed at her Mother with a look of surprise and answered Certainly. I must be very different from what I am now before I give that up

A few moments before She fell asleep she called her Mother to her and said, my dear Mother, my dear Mother, I am going home going home Glory to God going home to Glory. "Oh; glorious hope Oh; blest abode
"I shall be near and like my God
I am going up home up home up home to Glory
How good how good is dying & fell asleep
Such a testimony is worth more than a world to her Dear lonely Mother. I feel much for Sister Lawrence here all alone a Lamb among wolves. The funerall will be tomorrow at 2 P. M. I am in truly a Strait place but I will trust in God I shall have a congregation of old hard ugly Congregationalists

2 My mistake

and Methodists My text is Jim 2:11,12,13 verses

I The second appearing of Christ is a subject that the Apostles dwelt largely on ~~and urged it as an inducement to move Heaven to depend~~ II A second presupposes a first and must be in many respects like a first III Christs first coming was litteral so will be his second coming III Death conviction or the advent of the Spirit is not Christs appearing 1 Christ is coming to raise the dead Saints and change those who are alive. II Christ is coming to restore this earth to its primitive purity III ~~He is coming to reign here~~ He is coming to set up his everlasting kingdom and reign Christ is to be king. The land promised to Abram & enlarged in Dan 7:- and Isaiah 6:4:8 is to be the teritory the Spiritual seed of Abram the Subjects &c, This is our hope Paul calls it a blessed hope and all true believers can say Amen ——

Do not think bro James is getting formal or is going to try to convert people to the advent faith no its too -.

But its our duty on some occasions to give a reason of our hope I think even to Swine. I have a chance to get to Fairhaven tonight in a sail boat & shall take the cars tomorrow morning for ~~Portland~~ Boston, and the Express train of cars for Portland at 4½ shall be in Portland tomorrow night at 9 O. Clock, I have received a Letter from Ellen stating that bro Nichols was at Portland next day after I left She said he had a glorious time She had a vision when he was there Brother Nichols said he was tried when he first heard of our marriage or intended Marriage but he was

word satisfied that God was in it Sister Ellen says as the way is made plain we are published we shall be married perhaps Monday Since I see you I have visited Holmes Hole. bro Chase & the sisters are good We had a holy Ghost time Tuesday eather they have no objections now to our marriage But it tryed them at first I have visit bro Hall I related the story to Charlotte & Sister Hall. It made them surprised at first but the told me they thought it must be of God Well I will say no more on that point. Since I left Portland I have been very free & happy God is good to me a poor worm & I love to go to glory If I get there I must press the mark If the Devil is the Devil yet God save me from his wiles When I think of my strange course for near two years sometimes the thought rushes over me that it all wrong I mean my course I have no doubts as to the Advent History shut door & all not one. But I have sought with intense intrest for heavenly wisdom & I will believe that God has led me When I from what Ellen said in her letter I judge that she thinks of coming West as soon as We are married If we do we shall be at Dartmouth This is written in great haste read it if you can. Love to your wife & Sister Ashley

James White